

INTENSIVE PROBATION SUPERVISION (IPS)

The Intensive Probation Supervision (IPS) program provides more structure and supervision for probationers than standard probation or other specialty courts. Each IPS probationer submits a weekly schedule which includes their employment schedule or work search, community restitution work hours (which are mandatory), and may include treatment and educational programs that they may be participating in during their IPS term. The IPS officer must approve the schedule prior to the probationer participating in the listed activities. IPS is generally reserved for probationers who are assessed as a higher risk to reoffend and who may not have succeeded on a lower level of supervision due to a lack of structure in their life or those who have struggled with the decision-making progress which has led to criminal behavior. The IPS program was developed as a prison diversion program and, many times, is the last opportunity for a probationer to make positive behavior changes and avoid actions that have led to negative consequences in the past. Officers who supervise IPS caseloads utilize positive reinforcement and incentives for positive behavior changes and apply intermediate, immediate, sanctions for negative behaviors and violations of the conditions of probation. IPS Probation Officers have frequent contact with the probationers on their caseloads. This allows them to utilize effective communication skills such as Motivational Interviewing (MI) and Effective Practices In Correctional Settings (EPICS) to assist high risk probationers to make significant positive changes to their lives.

